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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**DHL EXPRESS 552 6567 616**

Applicant: Marius Cornea et al.  
Serial No: 10/064,861  
U.S. Filed: 8/23/2002  
For: Check Valve and Valve Arrangement Comprising Such a Check Valve  
Examiner: John A. Rivell  
Art Unit: 3753

**Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

#### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents (except U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications) are attached.

These references have been cited in the counterpart European patent application. A copy of the European search report including a translation of pertinent parts is attached showing the relevance of the references as seen by the European Patent Office.

Applicant submits the following remarks in regard to the references.

The reference 1) shows strap-shaped valve lamellae 3 that are not shaped to a closed ring. In the area of the strip 7, the ring is open or interrupted; see Fig. 1. The radius of curvature of the sheet 4 forming the valve lamellae 3 is reduced continuously in the direction of the strip 5, as disclosed in col. 1, lines 64-66.

Reference 2) shows a pressure and upstroke valve for pumps and compressors. The closing element 3 is not a closed ring (see Figs. 2, 4, 6).

Reference 3) shows in Fig. 8 a valve plate 371 that is not closed because the two

ends of the valve plate 371 are spaced apart. In order for the valve plate 371 to be secured in its mounted position, a valve retainer 372 is required that is mounted in the valve chamber 35 such that the valve plate 371 remains in its valve position. Figs. 7a to 7d show in an exemplary fashion the arrangement of the valve plate 371 and of the retainer 372 in the chamber 35. This configuration has nothing in common with the configuration of the present invention.

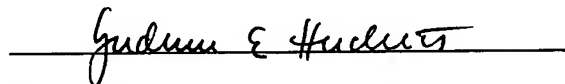
Reference 4) shows a design similar to that of reference 2). The closing element g is bent such that the ends are spaced apart (Figs. 2 to 4). The closing element is not positioned in an annular groove of a piston.

The reference 5) has been mentioned as general technological background only; it is obvious that no ring-shaped strap is shown.

It is respectfully requested that the fee required for belatedly filing an Information Disclosure Statement or any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 50-1199.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

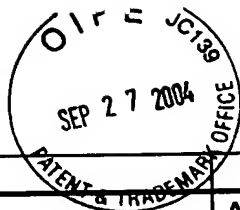
Respectfully submitted September 23, 2004,



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Enclosures: ☒ PTO 1449  
☒ reference(s)  
☒ search report (incl. translation)  
☒ fee (charged to USPTO deposit account)



PTO 1449		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>  <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	10/064,861
		Filing Date	8/23/2002
		First Named Inventor	Marius Cornea
		Group Art Unit	3753
Date submitted: 9/23/04		Examiner Name	John A. Rivell
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket No.	P6801.9US

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	4,241,758	12/30/1980	Eiermann	137	512.15	12/20/1978

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	2	20 43 002	3/2/1972	Germany				X
	3	0 069 531	1/12/1983	EPO				X
	4	525 481	9/22/1921	France				X
	5	2 161 583	1/15/1986	United Kingdom				X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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